

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 251561 TOSEC 160253

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: EUR DEVELOPMENTS, OCTOBER 22

FOR SONNENFELDT ONLY FROM HARTMAN

PARIS FOR LOWENSTEIN EYES ONLY

1. ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARY VISIT. WE HAVE REPEATED TO YOU ROME 15291 WITH VOLPE'S STRONG VIEWS AND THOSE OF ANDREOTTI ON IMPORTANCE AT EARLY DATE OF ISSUING VISAS TO ALL MEMBERS, INCLUDING TWO PCI REPS, OF PARLIAMENT GROUP DUE TO VISIT US NOVEMBER 2-9. (BUDGET MINISTER ANDREOTTI WILL LEAD DELEGATION.) WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE TO STATE 248451 TOSEC 160032 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. CANADIAN VISIT. TRUDEAU WILL NOT BE COMING TO WASHINGTON OCTOBER 23 FOR OPERA. INSTEAD, MITCHELL SHARP, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHO IS NOW PRESIDENT OF PRIVY COUNCIL WILL REPRESENT GOC.

3. PORTUGAL. LEFTIST MILITANTS SEIZED CONTROL OF RADIO RENASCENCA OCTOBER 22 AND RESUMED BROADCASTS FOR FIRST

T,ME SINCE GOVERNMENT CLOSED CHURCH-OWNED STATION SEPTEMBER 29. SOLDIERS OCCUPYING THE STUDIOS SUPPORTED THE DEMONSTRATORS BUT WERE WITHDRAWN LATER IN DAY ON ORDERS FROM COPCON CHIEF OTELO DE CARVALHO. THUS FAR, PINHEIRO AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT HAS NOT REACTED TO THIS LATEST DIRECT CHALLENGE TO ITS AUTHORITY. A SMALL "SECURITY FORCE" OF LEFTIST CIVILIANS AND RADICAL SOLDIERS IS REPORTEDLY GUARDING THE TRANSMITTER.

4. CEAUSESCU TO LISBON. CEAUSESCU WILL VISIT LISBON OCTOBER 28-30.

5. ROMANIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PATAN. PATAN IS COMING TO US-ROMANIAN JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER. A NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE, INCLUDING DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL.

6. GIEREK DEFENDS HIS POLICIES. EMBASSY WARSAW REPORTING ON SECRETARY MORTON'S OCTOBER 7 CALL ON GIEREK SAID THE FIRST SECRETARY WENT TO SOME LENGTH TO DEFEND HIS POLICIES AGAINST INTERNAL AND, APPARENTLY, EXTERNAL CRITICISM. REFERRING TO RUMORS CIRCULATING ABOUT FOOD SHORTAGES AND PRICE INCREASES, HE COMPLAINED THAT EVERYTHING IN POLAND BECOMES "POLITICIZED." EVEN A RECENT DEPARTMENT STORE FIRE WAS PURPORTED TO BE AN ACT OF POLITICAL SABOTAGE. HE ALSO TOOK AIM AT SOME PEOPLE WHO THINK POLAND IS LEANING TOO MUCH TO THE WEST ECONOMICALLY. HE SAID IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO SAY WHAT OTHER POLICY COULD BE FOLLOWED.

7. GISCARD VISIT TO USSR. EMBASSY MOSCOW REPORTS THAT THE FRENCH EMBASSY BELIEVES A COMBINATION OF AGE DIFFERENCES AND PRESSURE EXERTED BY THE PCF WERE PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO THE LESS THAN WARM ATMOSPHERE PREVAILING IN MOSCOW DURING GISCARD'S RECENT VISIT. INGERSOLL

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